**Presentation title: Concussion in the country – issues for rural practitioners**

**Abstract** (max. 300 words):

The diagnosis, treatment and ongoing management of concussion in sport can be difficult and particularly challenging in rural and remote areas. There is considerable debate about a number of issues including if and when patients should return to the sporting field and employment/study. The media tends to ‘sensationalise’ these issues in high profile cases but the reality is that most patients make a good recovery. Nevertheless, cases resulting in complaint and litigation give cause for concern for medical practitioners, particularly those involving possible long-term neurodegenerative conditions. Elements of economic loss can feature highly in such litigation.

The workshops will consist of a didactic presentation and a case study discussion of a concussion injury in a rural setting of Australian Rules football. There will be an opportunity to debate the appropriate subsequent management of the patient including return to the field of play. Following an interactive and robust audience discussion, the medicolegal presenter will highlight the key messages, learnings and appropriate contemporary practice.

**Learning outcomes:**

* an appreciation of the history of this evolving medical and legal area;
* an understanding of various assessment and management guidelines; and
* awareness of the recommendations from the recent International Consensus Conference on Concussion in Sport in Berlin in 2016.